

New Illinois Agronomy Handbook Now Available

DENNIS R. EPPLIN

MT. VERNON, ILL.



The University of Illinois Agronomy Handbook has long been considered a valuable reference. The 23rd edition was released in 2002 and served farmers well, but research and science have continued to move forward. Edition number 24 is hot off the press and available now.

You might ask, what is new and improved in the latest edition of the Illinois Agronomy Handbook? The answer would be almost everything! New graphics, color and illustrations stand out. A new index will also help you find information more efficiently.

One of the major changes in the Handbook is a whole new chapter on nitrogen management that completely replaces yield-based nitrogen recommendations. The chapter on insect management is new, and the chapters on corn, soy-

beans and small grains are completely revised.

Other examples of new and updated data include corn planting dates, corn populations, soybean seeding rates and tillage. There is also new information on management guidelines for crop sequences and new cropping alternatives, including biofuel crops.

At the present time, there are no plans to post the new Illinois Agronomy Handbook on the internet. The previous version was on the web as a PDF file, but that was made possible with special funding which is currently not available. The earlier online calculators (seed drop, yield estimator, corn replant) will continue to operate.

The new handbook is \$35. You can order online at pubsplus.illinois.edu, or you can call 1-800-345-6087 to place your order by phone. You can also contact any county U of I Extension office to purchase a copy. Δ

DENNIS R. EPPLIN: Extension Educator, Crop Systems, University of Illinois



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